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September 19, 1975

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GENE E VOIGTS

Re: Dr. Thomas F. Mancuso

Gentlemen:

We have recently received from Dr. Thomas Mancuso a research proposal request for support on "Demographic Studies on Mortality of Ohio" (copy enclosed). The project is for a period of fourteen months and has a budget of \$38,700.00. We believe Dr. Mancuso's work is important and we recommend approval of the proposal to be funded as a CTR Special Project.

This proposed project represents a continuation of Dr. Mancuso's previous work accomplished under CTR Special Project funding. It would involve an expansion of the present data base and an extension of analysis to possible causes of mortality in standard metropolitan areas. The three parts of the proposal are briefly summarized as follows:

Part I -- Focuses on the census data accumulated during Dr. Mancuso's last special project. Unfortunately, the place of birth data for 1968-1972 has been omitted from the computer tape in Ohio and must now be gathered by investigators. The data on cause of death must also be expanded from all pertinent cancer sites to include categories of heart disease, tuberculosis, accidents, suicides, lung diseases, etc. Dr. Mancuso believes that the acquisition of 1968-1972 data and the further

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> breakdown of cause of death data are necessary to support his migrant theory, i.e., that early years of life, endemic environmental factors and exposure to urban and industrial environments are important considerations in the etiology of disease.

Part II -- Concentrates on the urban-rural differences in causes of death by using standard metropolitan areas (arranged by population). This approach will emphasize the "urban factor" as well as the existence of multiple factors in disease causation.

Part III -- Involves a pillot study of standard metropolitan areas. The purpose is to study those areas where excessive rates of cancer have been found and identify possible causes for the increased risk. Analysis of death certificates, work and environmental histories and air pollution data would be included in the study.

The budget reflects a substantial amount to be expended for field investigation in Ohio. Also included are projected transportation costs for presentation of the data at national and international meetings. In this regard, Dr. Mancuso's data was a major topic of discussion at a recent joint meeting of the International Labor Organization and World Health Organization. All indications are that he will represent the United States at future meetings of the ILO-WHO. Moreover, Dr. Mancuso's position as medical consultant to the machinists union, has, in part, resulted in his invitation to participate in a conference on asbestos, to be held in Oslo, Norway, in 1976.

Copies of recent publications and news media coverage are enclosed.

Please let us know of your decision on this proposal at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

William W. Shinn

WWS/rf enclosures

cc: Alexander Holtzman, Esq.

Ernest Pepples, Esq. Lester Pollack, Esq.